

SERMON NOTES Sunday 11 February

sunnysidechurch

Bible passages: Mark 9.2-9; 2 Corinthians 4.3-6

Introduction

- Transfiguration – metamorphosis – Jesus changed from within to glorious radiance which he had before the incarnation and will have when he comes again
- Gives disciples fresh insight into who Jesus is
- Moses (freedom from slavery) and Elijah (faithfulness to God): lots of parallels with Jesus but point to freedom from sin he brings us and call to follow him

Transfiguration as an encouragement to us:

1. Reminder of who Jesus is

- Jesus is God's beloved Son
- We can be God's beloved sons and daughters because of what Jesus did for us

2. Reminder of our calling

- Listen to him!
- We are called to be faithful to Jesus in the mundane and glorious moments of life

3. Reminder of the importance of time apart with God

- Jesus and others in the Bible take time aside to spend with God (often on mountains)
- Need space for encounter but then need to live in the valley of everyday life

Conclusion

We have the light of Christ in our hearts 'treasure in jars of clay' (2 Corinthians 4.7)

Some questions for discussion

1. What words would you use to describe Jesus Christ?
2. Read Mark 9.2-9. What do you notice?
3. Why do you think that this story happens at this point in the Gospel of Mark?
4. In what ways do you remind yourself of who Jesus is?
5. 'Listen to me!' How might listening to Jesus help us to be faithful in the mundane as well as the glorious?
6. What might it look like for you to take time to be alone with God?
7. Read 2 Corinthians 4.3-6. In light of the story of the Transfiguration, what might it mean for us to have treasure in jars of clay?
8. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

'This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!' (Mark 9.7)

Why not read the poem 'Chosen' (below) and use it to inspire your prayers of thanks and petition?

Revd Rebecca Fardell

Chosen by Dave Hopwood

As they were on the mountain a cloud came down.
And a voice declared:
'This is my beloved son. The chosen one. Listen to him.'

If we had eyes to see that mountain cloud, would it be present
again?

In our streets and homes,
at school, at work, and in the places of unemployment,
in the churches and pubs,
in the sports stadiums and cinemas.
And would we hear that voice saying:
'These are my children, my beloved sons and daughters.
Chosen ones.'

And though this mountain cloud may not be visible,
the voice may sometimes whisper to us,
in the songs and the silence,
in the busyness and bustle,
in the smiles of others,
in the compassion of those who care:
'You are my child, my beloved one. Chosen.'

©Dave Hopwood/engageworship.org